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New synonyms and notes on distribution of *Cryptocephalus dumonti* PEYERIMHOFF, 1924
(Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae: Cryptocephalinae)

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ABSTRACT. *Cryptocephalus assioutensis* PIC, 1927 and *C. margaritae* LOPATIN, 1997 are synonymised with *C. dumonti* PEYERIMHOFF, 1924 based on the study of type specimens. *C. dumonti* is recorded from Tunisia for the first time.

Key words: taxonomy, synonymy, Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae, Cryptocephalinae, *Cryptocephalus*, distribution, North Africa, Israel

North African fauna of the genus *Cryptocephalus* MÜLLER, 1776 is still poorly known. Only the subgenus *Burlinius* LOPATIN, 1965 has been recently revised by WARCHALOWSKI (1999). The authors had a possibility to study the type specimens of *Cryptocephalus dumonti* PEYERIMHOFF, 1924, *C. assioutensis* PIC, 1927 and *C. margaritae* LOPATIN, 1997. The above species are undoubtedly identical and are synonymised.

The following codes (after ARNETT et al. 1993) identify the collections housing the material examined:

JBCB – Czech Republic, Brno, Jan BEZDĚK collection;

JBCP – Czech Republic, Prague, Jan BATELKA collection;

MNHN – France, Paris, Muséum National d'Histoire naturelle (Nicole BERTI);

NHMB – Switzerland, Basel, Naturhistorisches Museum (Eva SPRECHER);

ZMAS – Russia, St. Petersburg, Zoological Museum, Academy of Sciences (Boris A. KOROTYAEV).

In recording label data from material examined, a double slash (//) divides data on different labels. Exact label data are cited for type specimens. Authors' remarks and complementations are found in square brackets: [p] – preceding data are printed; [h] – the same, but handwritten.

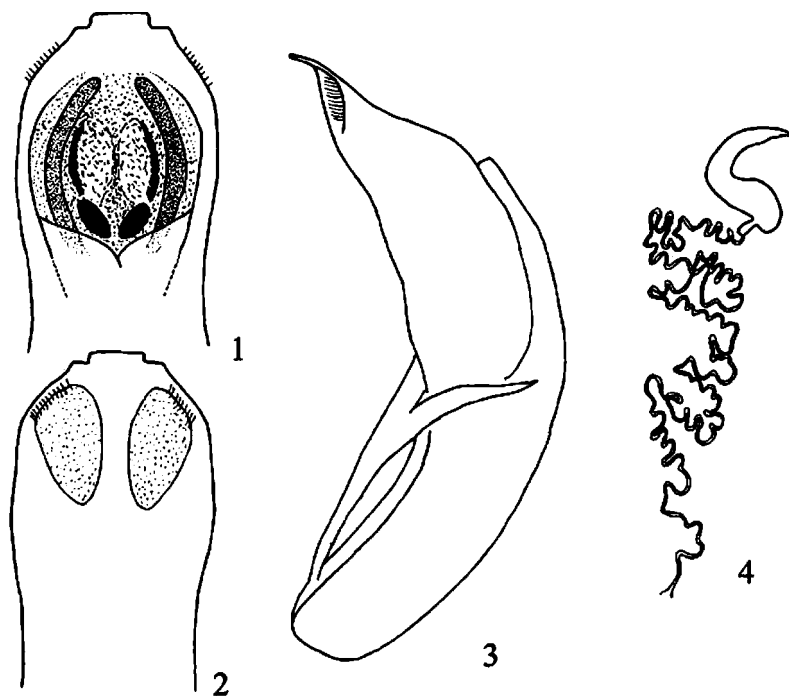
***Cryptocephalus dumonti* PEYERIMHOFF, 1924**

(Figs 1-4)

Cryptocephalus Dumonti PEYERIMHOFF, 1924: 62 (type locality: El-Goléa); WINKLER, 1929: 1259; PEYERIMHOFF, 1931: 110

Cryptocephalus assioutensis PIC, 1927: 2 (type locality: Wadi Assiouti); WINKLER, 1929: 1258; ALFIERI, 1976: 228, **syn. nov.**

Cryptocephalus margaritae LOPATIN, 1997: 368 (type locality: Israel, Ha'Arava valley), **syn. nov.**



1-4. *Cryptocephalus dumonti*: 1-3 – aedeagus (1 - dorsal, 2 - ventral, 3 - lateral), 4 - spermatheca

TYPE MATERIAL EXAMINED:

Cryptocephalus dumonti PEYERIMHOFF, 2 syntypes, two males on the same pin, labelled: “[Algeria] El Goléa (c. 2) sur *Calligonum comosum* [h] // Museum Paris coll. P. de Peyerimhoff 1950 [p] // TYPE[p]S[h] // *Cryptocephalus Dumonti* Peyerh. types B...[h]” [in MNHN – coll. PEYERIMHOFF]

Cryptocephalus assioutensis PIC, holotype, female, labelled: “[Egypt] Wadi Assiuti 25.4.26 [p] // Coll. Alfieri Egypte [p] // *Cryptocephalus assioutensis* Pic TYPE (1926) [h] // 1929 [h] // *Cryptocephalus dumonti* Peyerimhoff, 1924, det J. Bezdk, 2001 [p]” [in NHMB – coll. FREY]

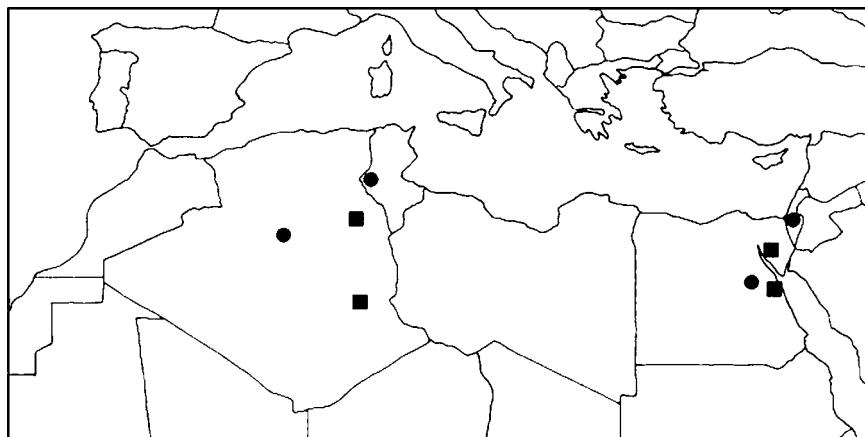
Cryptocephalus margaritae LOPATIN, holotype, male, labelled: “Israel, 3.VII.96, Ha’Arava valley, 9 km SW of Yahel [h] // Loc. 5, *Calligonum* M. Volkovich [h] / / *Cryptocephalus margaritae* sp. n. [h], det I. Lopatin, 19 [p] 96 [h] // Holotypus [red label, p] // *Cryptocephalus dumonti* Peyerimhoff, 1924, det J. Bezdk, 2000 [p]”. Paratype, female, labels with the same data as holotype except label 2: “*Calligonum*. M Dolgovskaya [h]” and label 4: “Paratypus [red label, p]”. [in ZMAS]

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL EXAMINED:

1 female, labelled: “[Egypt] Assiuti 10-5-92 // Coll.: A. M. El-Torkey” [in JBCB]

6 males and 4 females, labelled: “Tunisia 1998, 21.-23.5.98, Nefta, J. et H. Batelkovi lgt.” [in JBCP, 1 male and 1 female in JBCB]

PIC (1927) compared *C. dumonti* only with *C. sinaita* SUFFRIAN, 1854, but the later species belongs to the *C. undulatus* SUFFRIAN, 1854 – group (BERTI & RAPILLY 1979). In fact, *C. dumonti* is closely related to several species from desert areas of



5. Distributional map of *Cryptocephalus dumonti*. circles – material examined, squares – literature data

Central Asia (e.g. *C. rufofasciatus* SOLSKY, 1881; *C. curtissimus* PIC, 1907; *C. kiritschenkiellus* LOPATIN, 1961). All these species feed on *Calligonum* sp. (*Polygonaceae*) (MEDVEDEV & ROGINSKAYA 1988). *C. dumonti* is probably monophagous on *Calligonum comosum* L'HÉRITIER de BRUTELLE, 1791 (PEYERIMHOFF 1924).

DISTRIBUTION

Previously published localities for this species include: Algeria: El Goléa (PEYERIMHOFF 1924); Tassili occidental: Amguid; Grand Erg oriental: Fort-Lallemand (PEYERIMHOFF 1931); Egypt: Wadi Assiuti (PIC 1927); Hurgada (Red Sea coast); Wadi Isla (ALFIERI 1976); Israel: Ha'Arava valley (LOPATIN 1997). Besides the type material, specimens examined in this study were collected in Egypt (Assiuti) and Tunisia (Nefta). *C. dumonti* is reported from Tunisia for the first time.

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